## **IRRADIATION**

6311 Wilson Lane Bethesda, MD 20817 May 25, 1999

Commissioner Jane E. Henley, MD. FDA 5600 Fisher Lane Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Commissioner Henley:

I would just like to say that I agree with the process of irradiating food and the FDA's decision to irradiate certain foods. I believe in irradiation for the following three reasons, but mainly because I know irradiation can save hundreds of thousands of lives.

My first reason is irradiation has been endorsed by many health organization and other types of groups. Here are just some of the main organizations that endorse it: United Nations or as most commonly know as U.N., and the World Health Organization.

My second reason is the process of irradiation is the only known method of killing the deadly bacteria E. coli... If a human being ate a food containing the bacteria E. coli the person would become very ill or even die. Health and Fitness says, "irradiation is the most important dietary advance since pasteurization." The Washington Times says "Irradiation generally could save thousands of lives." Nothing is more important than life itself and I personally think irradiation has almost no disadvantages, at least none that have been found.

My third and last reason is that there isn't any record of anyone ever getting sick and definitely not dying from eating irradiated food. Many articles like the the one from the <u>Washington Times</u> and from <u>Health and Fitness</u> are saying that the number of lives saved is incalculable all because of irradiating food.

So in conclusion I can see how important irradiation is and how many lives can be saved by it. I hope you can see the same benefits that I do. I hope you and the FDA keep endorsing irradiation. Also I hope that you have learned more about irradiation from this letter and I hope you just keep the process going.

Sincerely Jeff Bandler

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Ofc. of Consumer Affairs May 8

Commissioner June [Henry, MD]

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